

Policy change starts with us

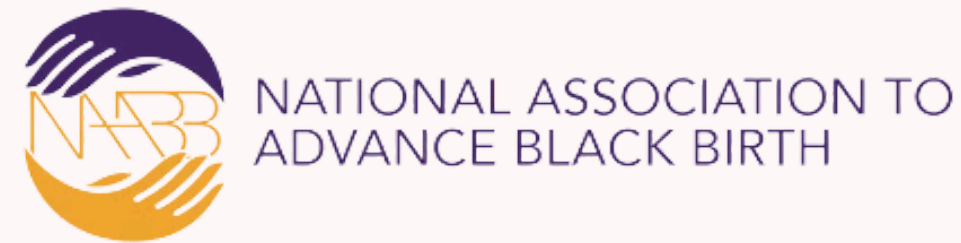
Webinar 1





Midwives and
community birth
need **policy**
infrastructure

**We see policy as an
important lever.**



Stewards

January 2026 convening

Washington, DC

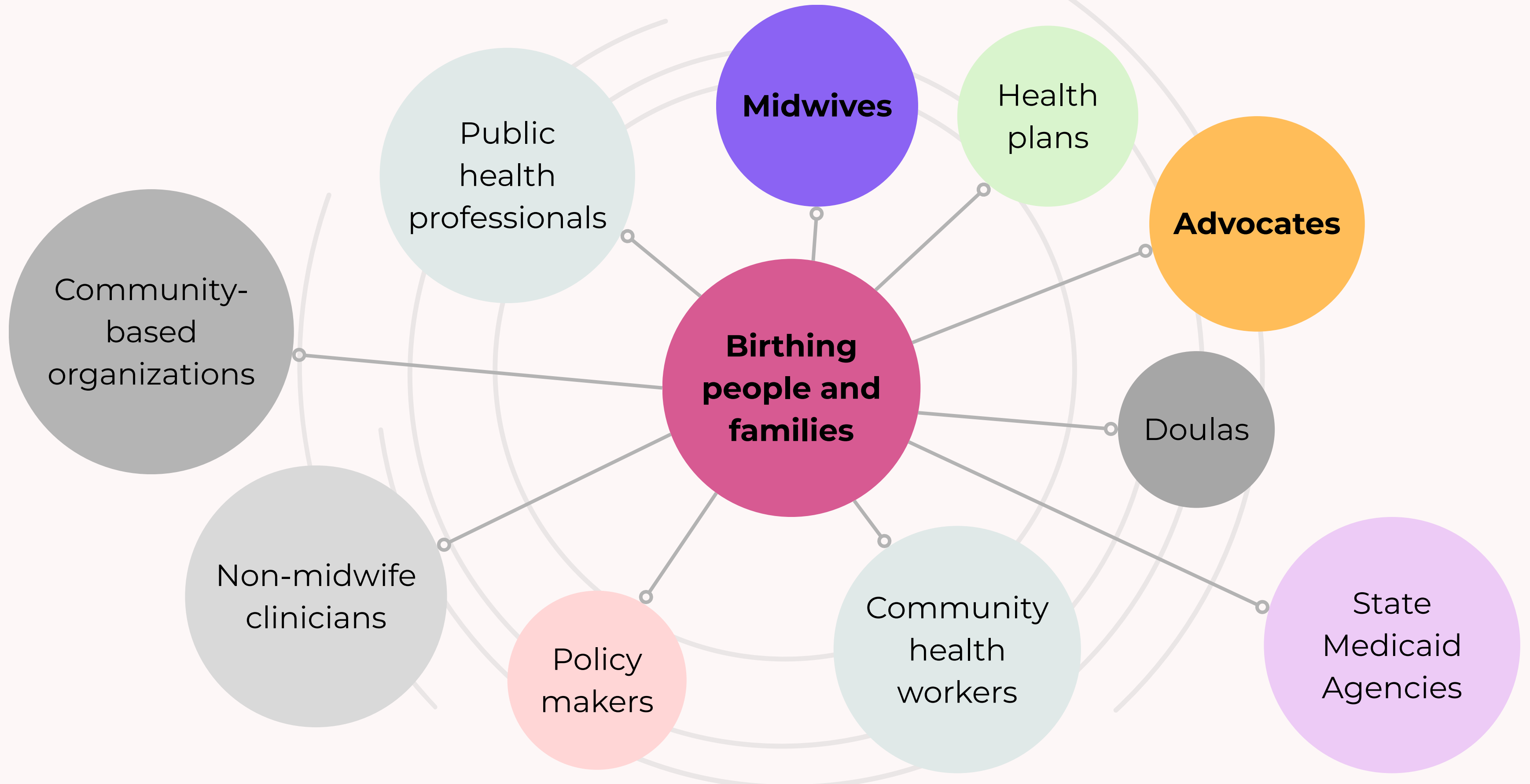


Our Mission

Select and provide **stewardship** to up to 10 **state teams** to advance **community midwifery** supporting individuals and families through **state-based policy**.



State Teams Are **Collaborative**



State Teams May Evolve

Anticipate
**composition
of state teams**
will expand
during
application
process

**Connecting
applicants**
within a state
with one
another

Team
composition
may change
during the
funding
period to
**meet the
teams' needs**

Community Midwifery is...

midwife-led care delivered in a home,
birth center, or freestanding clinic setting

regardless of credentials

Policy is Expansive.

- Focused on the state level
- Encompasses efforts in many domains
 - legislative
 - regulatory
 - health plans
 - other institutions or systems
- Includes awareness building among the public and policymakers

Eligibility:

Call for state teams from:

- Alabama
- Arizona
- California
- District of Columbia
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Mississippi
- Nebraska
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- West Virginia

Funds can be dispersed to:

- Community-based organizations
- Community clinics or birth centers
- Midwifery trade associations
- Academic institutions

Timeline

April - May 2026: Application Process

June 2026:
Program Kickoff

July 2026 - July 2027
Program Implementation

Fall 2026:
In-person
convening

July 2026 - July 2027
Program Implementation

August 2027:
Program Completion

Time Commitments

- **5 minutes:** eligibility form
- **1-2 hours:** application form
- **45 minutes:** interview with stewards
- **3 hours:** 3 1-hour webinars
- **2 days:** in-person convening
- Time for independent implementation & technical assistance from Midwifery Policy Collective

Stewardship



Tailored technical assistance

- capacity building
- communications
- engagement strategies

Resources and tools to advance implementation

Shared learning opportunities

Peer-to-peer collaboration opportunities

In-person convening in fall / winter 2026

Grant funds ranging between \$50,000 and \$150,000

Application Process

1

Eligibility Form

2

Application Form

3

Interview
with
Stewards

Eligibility form

- 5-minute survey to determine eligibility
- 8-10 questions
 - contact information
 - state
 - structure of organization receiving funds
 - fiscal sponsorship
- submissions will be reviewed within 3 business days



DUE: Friday April 17th

Application form

- Up to 2 hours to complete
- 16 questions
 - team composition
 - purpose, mission, and priorities
 - advocacy experience
 - contact information
- List of questions will be sent with invitation to complete application
- Responses have character limits (most responses should be a paragraph or less)

DUE: Monday April 27th



Interview

- **Invitations sent by May 11th**
- Approximately 45 minutes via Zoom
- Questions sent in advance
- **Interviewers:** 3-4 members of the Midwifery Policy Collective
- **Interviewees:** suggest limiting to team leadership
- Opportunity for discussion and feedback
- Decisions announced early June

May 4-22

Application Form Overview

Definitions and Level Setting

- **Community Midwifery** is midwife-led care delivered in a home, birth center, or freestanding clinic setting.
- **Policy change** is an expansive term that can encompass legislative efforts, regulatory action, and health plan changes.
- **All midwives**, regardless of credential, including those without a recognized credential, are welcome to apply for this opportunity.



Team composition

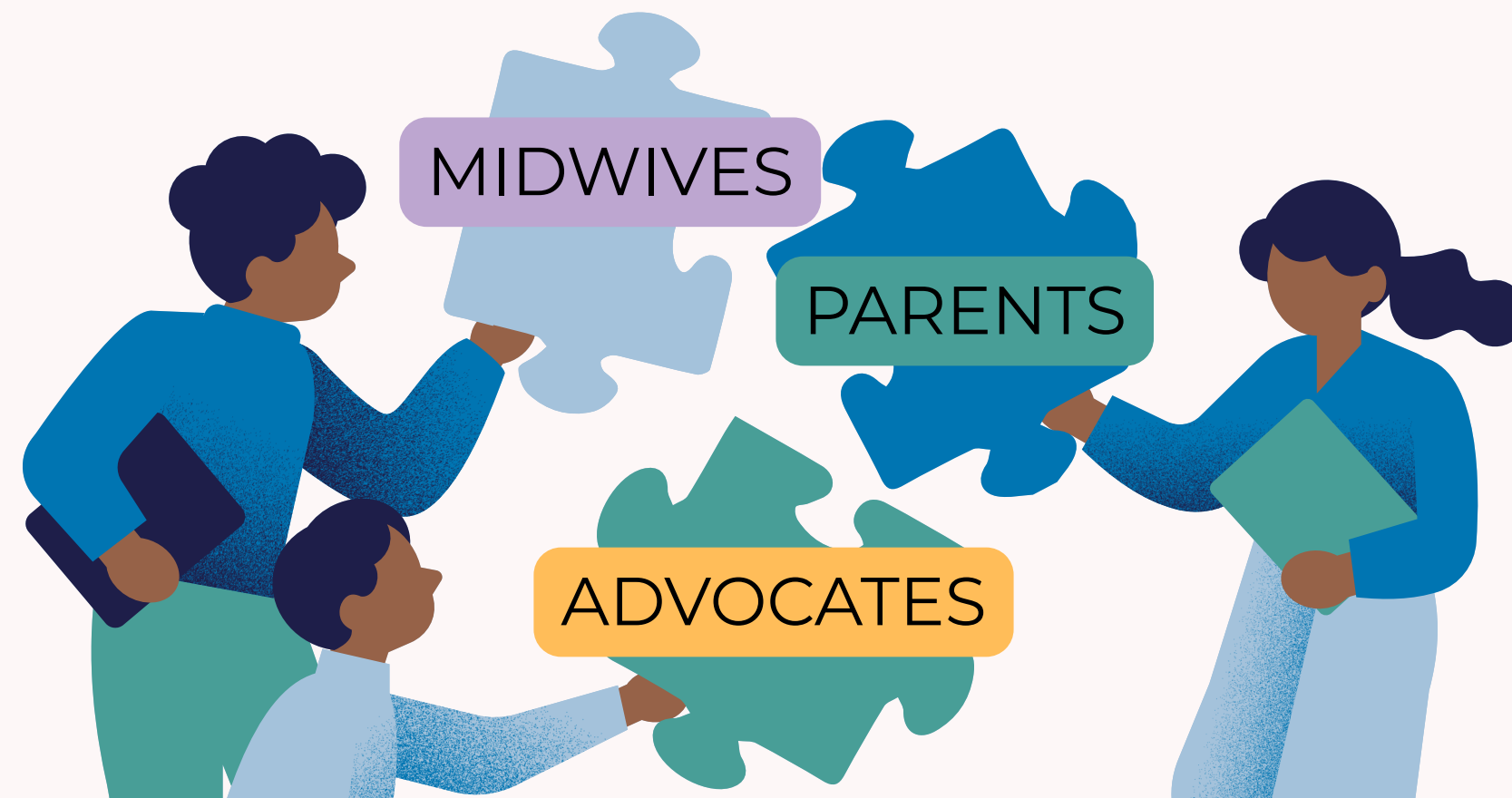
1. Share with us how your team defines community-based midwifery?
2. List the names, credentials, and affiliations of your team's primary leaders, including their designated role, if applicable, on the team.

	Name	Credential(s)	Affiliation(s)	Role
Person 1				
Person 2				
Partner Org				



Q: Team composition

3. How many years has your team been active?
4. Briefly describe the current level of engagement and collaboration within your team among practicing midwives.
5. List the perspectives that are currently well represented on your team.
6. List the perspectives that are currently absent from your team that you would like to include.





Mission, purpose, and priorities

7. Provide us with a brief description of the current state of community-based midwifery in your state.
8. Describe your state-level midwifery policy priorities and opportunities.
9. Briefly describe the policy barriers you have encountered when expanding midwifery practice within your state.
10. What is the primary motivation for seeking support from the Midwifery Policy Collective?
11. List the goals your team would like to accomplish if selected to participate in this opportunity.
12. Describe the proposed activities your team hopes to accomplish through participation in this funding opportunity



Advocacy expertise

13. Describe the degree of engagement and support your team's advocacy efforts have received from policymakers.
14. Describe the midwifery leaders or leadership groups in your state, regardless of whether they are part of your team.
15. Describe any existing partnerships or relationships that will be or have been leveraged to advance this work.
16. Describe your team's experience and/or strategy for centering equity and the voice of community members with lived experience.



Q&A



Webinar + State team breakouts



April 15

12-1pm ET

Eligibility Survey Deadline



April 17

Eligibility form due

Final Deadline



April 27

Application form due

Questions & more support:
midwifery@medicaidinnovation.org